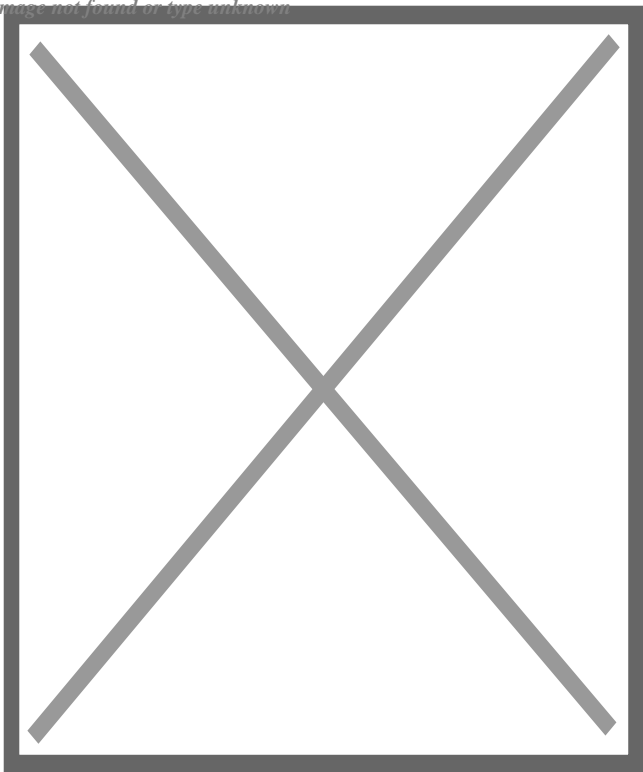


Israel's savage military assault in the Gaza Strip taking catastrophic toll on children

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Rafah, June 17 (RHC)-- More than 14,000 children have reportedly been killed during the more than 8 months-long Israeli aggression, according to the latest estimate by the Palestinian Ministry of Health. There are no safe spaces for Palestinians.

The genocidal aggression by Israel has claimed the lives of more than 37,300 people.

UNRWA says at least 17,000 children in Gaza are unaccompanied or separated from their family as Israel continues its brutal war against the besieged enclave.

All of Gaza's children have been exposed to the traumatic experiences of war, the consequences of which will last a lifetime. Their homes have been destroyed; their families torn apart.

Around 1.7 million people in the Gaza Strip are estimated to have been internally displaced -- half of them children. They do not have enough access to water, food, fuel and medicine. Even during Eid al-Adha, Palestinians in Gaza are having little relief from the U.S.-Israeli genocide.

Israel is accused of genocide at the International Court of Justice, whose latest ruling ordered Tel Aviv to immediately halt its operation in Rafah city of southern Gaza, where more than 1 million Palestinians had sought refuge from the war before it was invaded on May 6.

More than eight months into the Israeli onslaught, vast tracts of Gaza lay in ruins amid a crippling blockade of food, clean water and medicine.

The Hamas chief on Sunday once again condemned the Israeli onslaught on the Gaza Strip, saying the Palestinians and the resistance will remain steadfast and defend the Palestinian territory and sanctities.

In a speech to mark Eid al-Adha, Ismail Haniyeh said Israel has achieved none of its objectives despite the months-long genocide in Gaza. Haniyeh also called on the international community to take action to force Israel to open all Gaza border crossings and return the control of the Rafah crossing into Egypt to Palestinians.

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